



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment



02-DOE-01652

October 28, 2002

Sam DIXON, Chairwoman
Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments
8461 Turnpike Drive, Suite 205
Westminster, CO 80031

Re Comments of Proposed Modifications to Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement

Dear Chairwoman DIXON

Thank you for your September 9, 2002, letter expressing the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments' (Coalition) comments on the Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement (RFCA) Parties' proposed modifications to the RFCA. We appreciate the obvious effort and intensity that have gone into the Coalition's comments. As you know, the dialog among the RFCA Parties and the Coalition has already significantly impacted the proposed modifications of the RFCA, and we look forward to continuing the dialog.

The Coalition's comments reflect that the Department of Energy (DOE), the regulators, and the community have a joint interest in achieving the best possible cleanup within the cost and schedule parameters set for this project. Our collaboration over the last several years has enabled the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (Site) to make progress in the cleanup that far exceeds what was contemplated even a few years ago. Successfully completing this complex project will require us to continue to work together to set priorities and make choices that will enable a thorough and protective cleanup. Our dialog on the RFCA modifications is one important step in this process.

In many respects the current thinking of the RFCA Parties is consistent with the comments of the Coalition, particularly in the areas of surface water protection and surface soil remediation. Your letter also raises several questions regarding the subsurface approach and long-term stewardship element of the proposal. It is recognized that some contamination will remain after the Site is closed, some uncertainty will remain, and there will be a need for long-term oversight and monitoring. The method the government uses to provide that oversight and monitoring, and how we partner with the community, is one issue on which we must continue to work together.

ADMIN RECORD
SW-A-004675

1/2

S Dixon
02-DOE-01652

2

We anticipate a 60-day public comment period, likely from mid-November 2002, until mid-January 2003. The documentation released for public comment will reflect how the Coalition comments have been considered and influenced our decision making process.

The RFCA Parties again thank you for your involvement at the Rocky Flats Site and affirm our interest in continuing the strong working relationship between the DOE, the EPA, the CDPHE, and the Coalition.

Sincerely,

Eugene C Schmitt

Eugene C Schmitt
Manager
Rocky Flats Field Office

Jack McGraw
Jack McGraw
Environmental Protection Agency

Doug Benevento

Doug Benevento
Colorado Department of Public Health and
Environment



2/2